

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AGR-05

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O 151139Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3369

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, UR, US

SUBJ: EXCHANGES: CONSTRUCTION OF FERTILIZER FACILITIES

FOR: EUR/SOV EXCHANGES OFFICER CUSHNESS AND OES/SCI

REF: A. STATE 193106

B. MOSCOW 11500

C. MOSCOW 9938

1. EMBASSY INFORMED METAL'NIKOV OF CONTENTS REFTEL A. METAL'NIKOV NOTED THAT MANY PEOPLE ON SOVIET SIDE HAD WORKED LONG AND HARD TO HAVE TRIP COME ABOUT ON SCHEDULE AND REQUESTED THAT SCIOFF AWAIT METAL'NIKOV'S RETURN CALL. HALF AN HOUR LATER, METAL'NIKOV CALLED BACK WITH "KIND REQUEST OF SOVIET SIDE" THAT US DELEGATION PROCEED DIRECTLY TO MOSCOW, WHERE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE PROVIDED. METAL'NIKOV PROMISED THAT "EVERYTHING WILL BE STRAIGHTENED OUT HERE."

2. METAL'NIKOV DURING BOTH CONVERSATIONS EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER EFFORT BY SCST AND MINISTRIES TO HAVE VISIT COME ABOUT. HE REFLECTED THAT HE COULD NOT AT ALL PREDICT WHAT REACTION OF SOVIETS WOULD HAVE TO POSTPONEMENT, IF THAT IS FINAL DECISION. SCIOFF INFORMED METAL'NIKOV THAT DECISION OF DELEGATION HEAD ALREADY APPEARS FINAL, BUT THAT EMBASSY WOULD
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CONTACT DEPT AND REQUEST THAT EFFORT BE MADE TO HAVE VISIT

COME ABOUT. SCIOFF STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF DECISION ON VISIT TO KINGSIREPP FACILITY.

3. WHEN NO DECISION CAME ON KINGSIREPP, SCIOFF AGAIN CALLED METAL'NIKOV TO INSIST ON IMPORTANCE OF THIS INFORMATION. METAL'NIKOV SAID THAT SCST HAS STRESSED THIS QUESTION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE OF THE HOST MINISTRY, BUT THAT MINISTRY ANSWER WAS THAT ALL QUESTION OF VISIT ITINERARY COULD BE DECIDED WHEN US DEL MEETS WITH DEPUTY MINISTER HERE IN MOSCOW. SCIOFF EXPRESSED FEAR THAT US DEL WOULD NOT BE WILLING TO TRAVEL ALL THE WAY TO MOSCOW WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT THEY WERE GOING TO SEE. METAL'NIKOV CONCLUDED THAT HE FELT THAT ALL QUESTIONS COULD BE ANSWERED SATISFACTORILY IN MOSCOW.

4. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT SCST HAS MADE CONCERTED AND SINCERE EFFORT TO HAVE TRIP COME TO FRUITION ON SCHEDULE. FROM METAL'NIKOV'S COMMENTS AND PAST NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS EXCHANGE, INCLUDING AYKAZYAN'S EXPLANATION OF DECREASED SOVIET INTEREST AND REFOCUS OF SUBSTANCE (REF C), EMBASSY CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT, IF VISIT "POSTPONED" BY DELEGATION HEAD WHEELER, SOVIETS WILL EVER AGREE TO RESCHEDULE IT.
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